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The Western Normal Letter

Entered as second class matter April 21, 1915, at the post office at Bowling Green, Kentucky, under the act of August 24, 1912. Published monthly by the Western Kentucky State Normal School.

Vol. 1, No. 6. Bowling Green, Kentucky. September, 1915

OPENING OF FALL SESSION SHOWS INCREASED ATTENDANCE.

The Fall Session opened on Tuesday morning, September 8th, with an enthusiastic gathering of students. In number the registration exceeded by a large per cent what we have had heretofore at this season of the year, and the quality of the work that is being done is unsurpassed. Teachers and former students returned from their vacations with a vigor and an inspiration that will enable them to accomplish the best results. Many graduates from High Schools are included in the enrollment.

NOVEMBER 15, 1915, BEGINNING OF WINTER TERM.

On Monday, November 15th, the second term of the Fall Session will open. By entering then you will be able to do consecutive work for ten weeks before the opening of the Mid-Winter Term. Correspondence indicates that many additional students will be entering in November. No better time could be chosen. Those who can arrange to enter at that time should by all means do so and not wait until after the holidays. Do not make the mistake of waiting, but come ahead just as soon as you are able to do so.

CHANGE IN DATE OF OPENING OF THE MID-WINTER TERM.

Since the school term throughout the State has been extended from six to seven months, it has been deemed best to change the date for the opening of the Mid-Winter Term to Tuesday, February 1, 1916. By putting it this late, most of the teachers will be able to enter at the beginning of the term or a short while thereafter.

FREE TUITION.

While making your plans to enter school somewhere, be sure to take into consideration the fact that those who expect to teach are entitled to free tuition in the Western Kentucky State Normal School. If you have completed as much as the Common School Course, are sixteen years of age and expect to teach after attending the Normal, you are entitled to an appointment and your County Superintendent will be glad to give you a contract. See him or write him about it.

HANDSOME PICTURE FOR THE STUDENT-BODY READY FOR DISTRIBUTION.

We have on hand a number of very handsome half-tone pictures of the student-body in attendance at the State Normal last spring. This picture is printed on beautiful paper and is sixty-two inches long by eleven wide. It will be sent nicely rolled in a tube to former students writing for it and to others desiring to receive a copy. If you would like to have a copy of it, drop us a card and it will be

sent without cost to you. We shall be glad to do this and will also have pleasure in sending copies to any of your friends who would like to have them.

CHAPEL EXERCISES.

If there is one feature of the Normal School work that appeals more especially to students and faculty it is the Chapel Exercises. This hour is the best in the day; the entire school voluntarily assembling for a period of song, prayer, Scriptural reading, and inspirational addresses by home folks and visitors. During the year many distinguished visitors come to us and they never fail to bring a message of cheer and stimulation. Among the many interesting occasions of the present year were the mornings of the visits of the members of the State Convention of W. C. T. U.'s and the Order of Eastern Stars. These organizations included in their members prominent men and women from all over Kentucky.

LITERARY SOCIETIES.

With the six or more Literary Societies that have been organized within the school during the past few weeks, every student in school has an opportunity to become an active member. Aside from the social enjoyment of these clubs, the work done here has gone far toward developing good speakers, good parliamentarians, and successful writers. Every student in school should become a member of one of these Societies and so get the advantage of this splendid training.

PICTURE OF THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS.

An attractive panoramic view of the buildings on Normal Heights has been made and is ready to be mailed. Those who desire to have a copy of this picture should write and ask for it. We shall be glad to send a copy without any cost to you whatever. It is a handsome picture; one that you will take pleasure in hanging on the wall of your school room or elsewhere.

WRITE FOR THE CATALOG.

The Course of Study in which you may be interested is, no doubt, explained in detail in our new catalog. It also gives information concerning fees, tuition, and other items of expense connected with attending this institution. WE STILL TO WRITE FOR IT; it will be sent with pleasure. We shall also be glad to answer any questions you wish to ask.

THE LIBRARY.

Our library of about eight thousand volumes has always been extensively used by the students. Under the management of three professional librarians, as it is today, it enjoys a circulation of about five thousand volumes monthly. There is no department of the school that is more important or that is being utilized to better advantage than our library.

FORMER GRADUATES RETURN.

Among the former members of the faculty who have been welcomed back this year are Miss Margaret Ankyr, who recently secured her degree from Indiana University; Mr. A. G. Wilson, a graduate of

the same institution; and Messrs. O. L. Cunningham and H. M. Verbrough from Wisconsin University. They are doing excellent work in the departments of History, Latin, Agriculture and Astronomy, and are popular with the student-body.

TRACK MEET AND BASEBALL.

Track work will be given a very prominent place in our school this year. We will have a dual athletic meet with Hanover early in May at this place, and some excellent contests are anticipated. Baseball, our standby, will receive even more attention this year, as we will meet stronger teams than we have heretofore. It is planned to bring the best college teams of this section here for games. The team will be made up this year principally of new men, as the former players are ineligible on account of the five-year rule.

LET US MEET YOU AT THE TRAIN.

Be sure to write to us two or three days before you start from home, and we shall be glad to meet you at the train and to help you and aid you in getting registrations and in making satisfactory rooming arrangements. It is always a pleasure to extend any courtesies possible to our students, and we hope that you will not hesitate to write us and ask us for any information or assistance desired. Many new students will be entering here at the beginning of the fall term, November 15th, and we hope to have you among the number.

COME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS OR SEND THEM TO US.

Will you kindly write us, telling us about your educational plans and what the outlook for a good attendance from your community is. If you cannot enter school yourself, can't you send some one to us and thereby confer a favor upon us or we will be grateful for individual whom you influence to enter? Many a young man or woman has received his first impulse toward a school life from a suggestion of a friend or fellow-worker to secure a good education.

ORATORIO SOCIETY.

Plans are being made for the annual work of the Oratorio society. The May Festival, which has already become a yearly event of the Normal, has grown in brilliancy with each succeeding year. An orchestra of more than fifty instruments, a chorus of nearly two hundred voices trained by Mr. F. J. Strahan, Director of the School of Music, and a number of the most noted oratorio and concert soloists in the country, have all combined to make it the success for which the director has been striving. The oratorio selected for "Abraham," by Mollegren, has been selected as one of the numbers for the next Festival. Those students who can sing possibly will and enter here for the November Term will have an opportunity to secure this valuable training without any cost whatever.

ANNUAL CHESTNUT HUNT.

With the coming of Indian Summer and early frosts the thousands of Normal students begin to turn toward the annual chestnut hunt. It has been decided that this delightful holiday is to occur at an early date. As usual the entire school in wagonettes, automobiles, etc., will go out to the shildhood home of President G. H. Cherry.

where each and every one will store up inspiration and energy and educational zeal for the gloomy days that are to come. In the past this has been one of the greatest days in our school calendar and without doubt the approaching occasion will be brimful of the same kind of joy. Various games and athletic contests for the young men and also the young women are being arranged.

BEST TIME TO ENTER SCHOOL.

To the many inquirers who have asked what is the best time to enter school, we will say that if there is one season that has an advantage over any other, it is the fall and early winter. During these months the classes are small and the faculty has a better opportunity to give instruction and personal attention to each student. If you can enter school at the beginning of the next term, NOVEMBER 15TH, you will make a great mistake not to do so. By coming at that time, you will be able to do ten weeks of consecutive work before the beginning of the Mid-Winter Term; besides, you will then have an opportunity to get acquainted with your fellow students, to take your choice of boarding places, to learn the routine of the school work and to know your instructors. Many of you who were planning to enter the State Normal here at the opening of the Fall Session in September but found at the last minute that you could not leave home, will find this an excellent time to register. We earnestly hope that you can be with us, and we extend to you in advance a cordial welcome. New classes will be organized in almost every subject you could want to take. If you have failed to receive a copy of our complete catalog, let us send you a copy now. All that is necessary for you to do is to write for it.

Basket ball for both boys and girls will be a popular line of athletics later in the fall. Tournament games will be played by the girls, and the boys will meet the best teams from out in the State.

EUTHENICS SOCIETY.

In addition to the regular literary societies of the Senior, Junior, Sophomore and preparatory classes there has been organized the Rural Economics Society and the Euthenics Society. The former was in active operation at the close of last year and a good deal of excellent work along the lines of country life was done. The Euthenics Society has been organized in the Home Economics Department and will make a study of home problems in the "Home Beautiful."

GREETINGS FROM FORMER STUDENTS.

Letters from graduates of former classes who are now teaching throughout Kentucky are arriving daily. It is gratifying to receive these greetings and to feel that the young folks who were there are engaged in good work. We shall be glad to hear from every one of your kind and tell us how you are succeeding and what you are planning to do in the future. Some of you have put in a year or two school work that otherwise might be lost. Don't fail to write occasionally and let us hear from you.

SEND INTO THE BEAUTIFUL HALL TOLD CONTEST MENTIONED ELSEWHERE IN THIS LETTER.

Address all communications to

H. H. CHERRY, President,
State Normal School,
Bowling Green, Ky.

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The Western Normal Letter

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Vol. 1, No. 7. Bowling Green, Kentucky. October, 1915

HOME ECONOMICS NUMBER.

This number of the Letter belongs by right of title to the Home Economics Department. Its purpose is to answer some of the various questions which come to the school from those interested in the work and from those intending to specialize in Home Economics. Our aim is not only to prepare girls to TEACH the problems of Food, Shelter, Clothing and Household Management in an elementary way, but so to increase their ideals of home, home life and home environment that the next generation will be stronger physically and mentally, thus being better able to meet the problems of life. Above all, we strive to make our course a working, practical one—one that will make home comfortable, sanitary, economical, beautiful.

Detail of the Course of Study: At present twelve terms of work are offered in the Department, and those specializing must take two terms of Chemistry and one of Physiology. By taking five and six hours' work per day, it is possible to complete the course in one year.

Domestic Economy 1.—(a) The cooking consists of simple recipes and experiments to show the various methods of and reasons for cooking, thus closely connecting the practical and theoretical phases of Domestic Science. (b) The sewing is entirely model sewing or learning to make the fundamental stitches, darning, patching, button-holes, plackets, seams, etc.

Domestic Economy 2.—(a) Cooking in this term deals with meats, croquettes, soups and beverages. (b) Practical applications are here made of model sewing. Patterns are drafted for corset-cover, petticoat and princess slip according to individual measurements.

Domestic Economy 3.—(a) The cooking consists of cakes and cake-making, salads, pastry, desserts and invalid cookery. (b) The study of bought patterns and their adjustment when too large or small with the making of gown and drawers constitute the sewing.

Domestic Economy 4.—(a) There is no cooking done in this term. (b) The sewing consists of elementary dress-making. Patterns are drafted for a housedress and tailored shirt-waist suit according to measurements.

Domestic Economy 6.—Dietetics. Pattee's Diet in Disease is used as a text. The work deals with a detailed study of protein, fat, carbohydrate, minerals and water; feeding, factors influencing the diet; diet in disease; diet of children; building balanced meals, etc.

Domestic Economy 7.—Contume designing, which is a study of the art principles in relation to dress. Topics considered in lectures: principles of Art expressed in line, mass and color as adapted to dress; functions of clothing; history of costume; design of dress suited to types of figures; appropriateness of dress to occasion; ethics of shopping, etc. Laboratory problems; illustrative material collected and mounted; problems in representation draping; designing and making two dresses; namely, plain woolen dress or silk waist and skirt; an evening dress of silk or sheer material.

Domestic Economy 8.—Experimental cookery. Topics considered in lectures with practical laboratory experiments: Acids, alkalies and salts; milk in relation to health; chemistry to milk; bacteria, yeasts and molds as applied to the home; bread and bread-making; canning and preserving; boning a chicken; lunches, table service.

No one will be admitted to this class who has not had Domestic Economy 1 and 2 or credit the equivalent thereof.

Domestic Economy 9.—Food study. This consists of a detailed study of the Chemistry of Digestion; a classification of foods and a detailed study of the different foods.

Domestic Economy 10.—Textiles, using Woolman and McGowan's Textiles as a text. Topics for class-room: Spinning; weaving; classification of fibers; production and manufacture of fibers; consumers' judgment of textiles; hygiene of clothing; clothing budget. Laboratory problems: Microscopic study of fibers; chemical study of fibers; dyeing and laundering.

Domestic Economy 11.—Household Management. This is divided into three parts; namely, Organization and Management of Domestic Economy Classes; Household Hygiene and Sanitation; and Household Management. For the two last using House Sanitation by Marion Talbot and Household Management by Bertha Terrill as texts.

Domestic Economy 12.—House-Decoration, a study of the art principles, proportion, rhythm, symmetry and subordination as expressed by line, mass and color and applied to home decoration. Topics considered: Entrances; architecture; interior of house. Laboratory work of making and binding a book, consisting of the student's work of tracings, drawings, and mountings in connection with the work.

Domestic Economy 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8 each require two hours per day for a term of ten weeks.

Domestic Economy 5, 6, 9, 10, 11 and 12 each require one hour per day for a term of ten weeks.

EQUIPMENT.

The Laboratories are splendidly equipped. The sewing laboratory has six sewing machines, six large sewing tables, dress forms, tracing board and many other valuable articles—enough to accommodate twenty-four girls in a glass. The same number can also be accommodated in the kitchen laboratory. Here students have the advantage of many modern devices, such as a fireless cooker, mayonnaise mixer, and other

labor-saving machines and devices. A dining-room is furnished and frequently used for practical work in serving meals. Besides, the school has in connection with the Department, banquet service for two hundred guests, and the classes in Domestic Science prepare and serve the Alumni Banquet each year.

EUTHENICS CLUB.

There is in the department an organization known as the Euthenics Club. Many problems related to and connected with the study of Home

DRESSES, ETC., MADE BY STUDENTS

Economics arise that cannot be covered in regular class work. To help solve such problems and get a broader understanding of Home Economics in its fuller meaning is the object of this organization. All students in the regular classes and those especially interested in the subject are eligible to membership in the club. It is an entirely voluntary movement by the students, growing out of a genuine interest and enthusiasm

in the work, and it promises to be of very great aid to the students when they go out in the field to organize and direct this line of work.

CREDITS.

It has given the institution much pleasure to know that such schools as Peabody College for Teachers, Chicago University, Wisconsin University, Stout Institute, and Bradley Polytechnic Institute recognize credits from the Western Normal in this Department as well as in other departments of the school. We are also glad to recognize the work done in any institution or high school after having done a test term's work.

FEES.

The Department must be more or less self-supporting, and a fee is charged to cover the cost of materials used during each ten weeks, and is as follows for the various terms: Domestic Economy 1, 2, 3 and 8—three dollars; Domestic Economy 4—fifty cents; Domestic Economy 5—one dollar and seventy-five cents; Domestic Economy 6—one dollar; Domestic Economy 7—fifty cents; Domestic Economy 10—seventy-five cents; Domestic Economy 12—fifty cents. No fee is required in Domestic Economy 9 and 11.

MATERIALS.

Two white princess aprons, hand towels and holders are required in the cooking Laboratory. A thimble, scissors, tape measure, emery cushion and pins for the sewing. The students must also furnish their own materials for garment making, elementary dress making and costume designing.

POSITIONS.

The institution cannot grant certificates to teachers, as there is not enough work offered or sufficiently advanced in character to warrant issuance, but we are always glad to assist in finding positions for those who complete the course, and many of the young people who have completed the course offered are teaching the subject to-day.

TIME TO ENTER.

The Mid-Winter Term begins February 1, 1916. The Spring Term opens April 10th, and the Summer School of six weeks on June 19th. The work is so arranged, however, that **students can enter at any time** and begin a course of study. The present term opened November 15th, and new students will be entering almost daily for the next ten days or two weeks. If one can arrange to enter school before the holidays, she should do so by all means.

For a copy of our complete catalogue and any other information concerning free instruction, etc., write

H. H. CHERRY, President,

State Normal School, Bowling Green, Ky.

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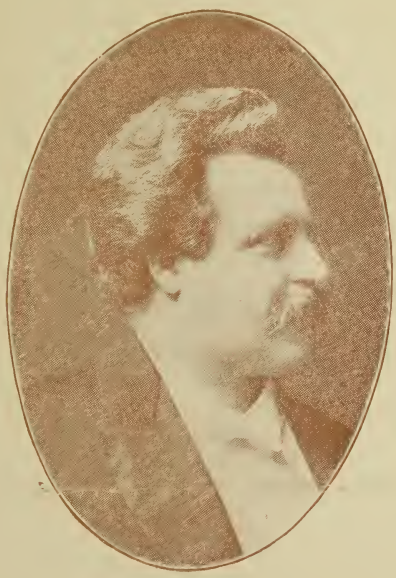
Vol. 1, No. 8. Bowling Green, Kentucky. November, 1915.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

Franz J. Strahm, Director.

The School of Music offers every advantage for the serious study of music, especially as a profession. The music department, under the direction of Mr. Strahm, ably assisted by other skilled specialists, has developed into an institution whose reputation is well known, not only in Kentucky, but throughout many other States.



FRANZ J. STRAHM, Director.

COURSE OF STUDY IN SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The School of Music has the following departments:

PIANO.—From the beginning to the highest artistic development.

VIOLIN, VOICE, PIPE ORGAN.

THEORY AND HARMONY OF MUSIC.

CHORUS, GLEE CLUB, ORCHESTRA AND ENSEMBLE PLAYING.

All courses are fully outlined in the catalog.

REGULAR CONSERVATORY COURSE.

The regular course of study in piano and violin is divided into three classes.

1. Preparatory class.
2. Teacher's certificate class.
3. Graduating class.

For a full explanation of these courses, write for our complete catalog. We shall also be glad to answer any questions you may ask.

COURSE A.—PUBLIC SCHOOL MUSIC.

The course embraces the following:

Music 1. Elements of notation; ear training; sight singing; with melodies, employing simple rhythmic type and the diatonic scale, the elementary principles of harmony, construction of scales, major and minor modes. Recognition of whole and half steps and a study of simple melodies from standard works.

Music 2. Sight singing of unison melodies. Part songs and chorus works. Art of conducting, use of baton, tone color; conducting school singing in various grades. Explaining use of child's voice. The girl and boy—voice compared; compass; mutation helps to tone production, use of practical material for the public schools. Harmony; intervals, construction of chords in major and minor modes, their progressions, inversion and resolutions. History; lectures on beginning music; the orchestra and chorus of today. Pipe organ; different forms of choral works. Free to all appointees.

COURSE B.—FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL MUSIC SUPERVISORS.

For admission to this course, students must have had at least a two years' regular High School course or its equivalent. In addition to these requirements, the candidates must have a fair ear for music, and be able to sing and play at sight ordinary hymns. See the catalog for outline of the course.

PIPE ORGAN.—Pupils must have finished Preparatory course in Piano before beginning the Organ. The catalog explains in detail the course offered. Write for it.

THEORY AND HARMONY OF MUSIC.—Stress is laid on these important phases of music.

COURSE IN VOICE TRAINING.—Principles of breathing. Tone production. Voice placing. Sight Reading. A full four-years' course. See the catalog.

VIOLIN.—For the immediate present, the Violin Department will be in charge of Prof. Franz J. Strahm, who has made a life-long study of violin and viola and has been a successful teacher of both these instruments. A teacher's certificate is issued those who complete the course.

VIOLIN CLASSES IN THE TRAINING SCHOOL DEPARTMENT. —First Term: Finger and bowing exercises. Gaynor and other school

songs, and rhythm work given without notes; study of notes; simple arrangements from the works of Schubert, Haydn, Schumann, Mozart. Ensemble practice.

Second Term: Studies from Saenger, Kayser and others. Orchestra practice.

This course is planned with the idea of awakening from the start a sense of rhythm, ear training, and for developing an appreciation for music and musical interpretation.

CABELL HALL—SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

TUITION RATES FOR PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS.

	Per Term of Ten Weeks.		Single Lessons,
	2 per Week.	1 per Week.	each.
Piano, Voice or Violin from Dean	$20.00	$12.50	$1.50
Piano from First Assistant	15.00	8.00	1.00
Piano from Second Assistant	10.00	6.00	.75
Voice	15.00	10.00	1.25
Violin	15.00	10.00	1.25
Violin Class of two people	10.00		

MUSIC CERTIFICATE AND DIPLOMA.

GRADUATION FEES.—A moderate charge is made for certificate or diploma and graduation fee upon completion of the required courses. The catalog has a definite statement concerning these items.

GOOD BOARD AT REASONABLE RATES.

The institution has erected a three-story brick building fitted with all modern conveniences and placed it under the care of Prof. A. C. Burton, one of the regular members of the faculty, and his wife, who take a personal interest in making it attractive and home-like for the young women. We take pleasure in meeting our students at the train and going with them and aiding them to secure the kind of boarding place they prefer.

SCHOOL ORCHESTRA.—When Prof. Strahm came to the school in the fall of 1910, he immediately started to organize the orchestra. Under his leadership it has made great progress. First-class concerts and performances have been given. The orchestra now embraces a full augmented String Quintette, Flute, two Clarionets, two Cornets, Trombone, Drums and Piano. All students who play a brass or stringed instrument are cordially invited to join the orchestra. No fee is charged.

RECITALS.—One of the important features of the School of Music will be the recitals and musicals. A private recital (not open to the public) will be held every week and all students in music will be expected to play or sing, the object being the training for the necessary public recitals. Every fourth week, a public recital will be held, at which only the best prepared students in regular courses will be permitted to appear.

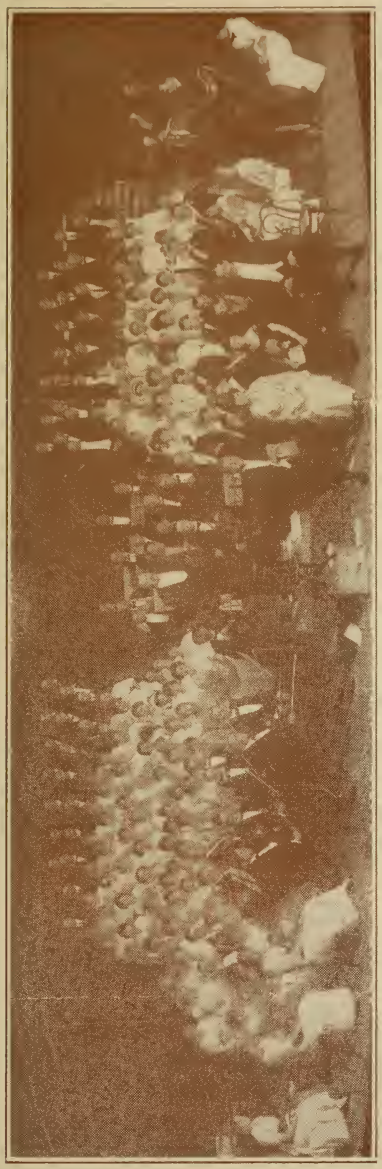
REPORTS.—The school will render to each student, if desired, and to the parent of each student, a term report of work with the standing achieved.

ARTIST RECITALS.—As part of the general culture, recitals will be given by recognized artists as incentives and examples to the student-body.

PRACTICE.—All students in regular conservatory courses will be expected to practice piano or violin at least two hours each day. Nothing but the best instruments will be used in the school, and the administration of the school will see that this equipment is kept up to the highest point of efficiency.

BENEFIT OF LITERARY BRANCHES.—Students of Music desiring to do so can take any one of the regular literary branches offered in the Normal. French, Spanish, German, Literature, History and other subjects are among the number from which one can make a selection.

TIME TO ENTER.—The Mid-Winter Term begins February 1, 1916. The Spring Term opens April 10th and the Summer Term of six weeks on June 19th. The work is so arranged, however, that STUDENTS CAN ENTER ANY TIME and begin a course of study. The present term opened November 15th, and new students will be entering almost daily for the next ten days or two weeks. If one can arrange to enter school before the holidays, she should do so by all means.



ORATORIO SOCIETY AND ORCHESTRA OF NORMAL SCHOOL, Assisted by Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, rehearsing for their joint program the next day. Dean Strahm, Conductor.

ORATORIO SOCIETY.

One of the most cultural features of the school is the Oratorio Society, which includes all students who have taken the Public School Music in Course 1 and 2, and those who are making music their major subject. The Oratorio Society was first started in 1909 by Mr. Strahm's predecessor, but somehow the chorus did not do much work and finally suspended entirely. With the coming of Mr. Strahm the whole school and city seemed to have taken new life musically speaking, and the first Music Festival ever given in Bowling Green was in May, 1911, the Oratorio, "The Last Judgment," by Sphor, being rendered with soloists from Philadelphia and Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and Nashville, Tennessee. The following additional choral works have been rendered during our Annual MAY MUSIC FESTIVAL with the assistance of large orchestras and great soloists from New York, Cincinnati, and other cities:

"Gallia," by Gounod; "The Creation," by Hadyn; "Eli," by Costa; "The Light of the World," by Arthur Sullivan; "Olaf Trygvason," by Grieg; and 'The Chimes of Normandy," by Planquette. Also numerous motets and chorus numbers have been rendered at various concerts. The school gives a three days' Music Festival in May of each year, and in 1916 will, with the assistance of a first-class symphony orchestra, give Molique's "Abraham."

USE OF THE LIBRARY.—All students of the School of Music have the free use of a well-selected library of several thousand volumes, containing many of the best works on Music as well as the best musical magazines of the country. Three professional librarians are always alert to give any assistance desired.

MANY PRESS COMMENTS ON PROF. STRAHM'S ABILITY AS A DIRECTOR, PIANIST, VIOLINIST AND COMPOSER, AS WELL AS THE ABILITY OF HIS SKILLED ASSISTANTS IN THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC, APPEAR IN THE CATALOG.

The following compositions are among Mr. Strahm's successful works:

PIANO SOLOS—Meteor March, Good Humor March, Soule College March, Monteagle March, June Days Wedding March, Two Brown Eyes, Gavotte, Columbia Schottische, Mexican Serenade (Habanera). Sweet Recollections, Valse Craracteristique, Fantasie Pastorale (Etude de Concert), Funeral March in C Minor, written for the use in S. R. F. A. M., Festival March, written in honor of the S. R. F. A. M., Western Kentucky State Normal March, also a set of pieces published under the pen name of "Sadezky."

VIOLIN SOLO—Gentle Reproach, Nocturne with Piano accompaniment.

VOICE COMPOSITIONS—Sleep, Baby Sleep, solo for medium voice; Prayer for Strength, sacred solo for medium voice; Christmas Song, Lullaby, for soprano voice.

CHORAL COMPOSITIONS—Our Hero, motet for solo, male quartette, mixed chorus, and orchestra. In addition to this, Mr. Strahm has in manuscript quite a number of orchestral works.

For a copy of our complete catalog and any other information concerning free instruction, etc., write

H. H. CHERRY, President,
State Normal School,
Bowling Green, Ky.

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Vol. 1, No. 9. Bowling Green, Kentucky. December, 1915.

WESTERN NORMAL STUDENT AS A FACTOR IN RURAL LIFE

By

Dr. A. J. Kinnaman, Dean.

While it may be truly said that the Normal School is not the exclusive agent for the training of teachers, it certainly is the State's chief agent. It is expected to build up the professional spirit, to establish educational standards, to create ideals and to send out men and women trained for leadership in the Commonwealth. For the realization of these ideals the Western Normal has striven vigorously for mastery of the subject-matter on the part of its students, for culture to assure efficient execution, for high ideals to assure proper direction, for a spirit of democracy that all may be willing to serve, for the growth of individual personality and for the development of a sane, safe and wholesome moral and religious character.

That these ideals have been attained in a large measure is attested by the influence that the students of the institution have had in raising the standard of educational ideals, and the standard of living for the Western District of Kentucky. It is a matter of common comment that our students have become not only leaders in teaching children, but that they have learned the art of going far beyond the four walls of the schoolroom to help build up the communities in which they live and labor.

These activities beyond the school room have resulted in a better attendance at the schools; in community campaigns for better health conditions about the school and in the neighborhood; they have led to improvement of our roads, to a wide range of agricultural advancement, to the improvement of our homes and home-making, to the sustaining of night schools, to the conducting of better institutes, to the constructing of better school buildings, to an improvement of the grounds, to an increase of the number of graded schools and to a growing sentiment for consolidated schools.

Because of a perfectly normal tendency of all prepared and trained teachers to gravitate toward the better paying and more permanent and desirable places and to the fact that there is a notion that the rural communities are not realizing sufficient proportional benefits from the State Normal School, the following statements are presented and may be worth more than a casual examination. It will be remembered that this institution has had its doors open but eight and a half years. The graduates, therefore, are not numerous. During the school year of 1914 and 1915 the graduates and graduating students appear to have been distributed as follows:

Total number of graduates, including the present class	282
Graduates this year	74
Deceased	4
Married and not teaching	22

Entered other professions	2
Attending universities	21
Attending professional schools	6
Teaching in State universities	3
Teaching in State normals	3
Teaching in private and professional schools	2
Teaching departments in high schools	12
Superintendents of town school systems	4
Principals of grade and high schools	44
Teaching in grade in village, town and city schools	78
Teaching in one-room schools	3
County superintendents	1
Assistant county superintendents	2
County demonstrators in agriculture	1

RECITATION HALL CABELL HALL A

Students on their way to Chapel Exercises—Western

A large, handsome half-tone cut, 9x35 inches, of the above, wil

STUDENT BODY OF THE WESTERN KENTUCKY S

A large, handsome half-tone cut, $8\frac{3}{4}$x61 inches, of the above, w

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The same may be stated in another way to advantage, thus:

Graduates not including the present class	208
Teaching in 1914 and 1915	153
Not teaching	55
Teaching or working in cities	30
Teaching or working in rural communities, villages and towns	123
Useful citizens living in rural communities, villages and towns and not teaching	24
Attending colleges and universities	27

Approximately 83½% of the graduates are contributing their lives to rural interests and 16½% to city interests.

However, what the institution turns back to the Commonwealth is

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ever made in this country.

in no wise limited to that returned through its graduates. Great as that is in inspiration and leadership, it must be remembered that the graduates are but a small, though choice, part of the total student-body. While there are 282 graduates, there have been 6,365 under-graduates. Our graduates on the average have spent thirty-five months here as students, while under-graduates have attended on the average of eight months. So, throwing this into tabular form, we have contributed to city interests 30 times 35 months, which equals 1,050 months.

Graduates contributing to rural schools, villages and farms, 123 times 35 months equals 4,305 months.

Under-graduates contributing to rural schools, villages and towns, 6,368 times 8 months equals 50,920 months.

The students contributing to city interests are 1,050 months; while those contributing to rural interests are 55,225 months, or something over 50 times as much as they contribute to city interests.

Of course it must be kept in mind that by no manner of means are all of the old under-graduates teaching. While the teaching and living services are fifty to one in favor of rural communities, a conservative estimate shows that the acting teaching service of the last year was about in the ratio of twenty to one in favor of the rural communities.

Graduates have been students on the average of three and a half years, which is quite satisfactory, since a rather large per cent of them are four-year high school graduates, or have attended colleges for a considerable time. The student who has been here for three and a half yars safely can be said to have attained a remarkable degree of scholarship for teaching and to have caught a vision and an inspiration capable of carrying him into a larger usefulness. The average attendance of the under-graduate students is as high as one could expect since so many enroll for the short summer terms. Eight months is too short a time in which to make any great advancement in academic knowledge and training, and yet long enough to catch a new vision for life, to set new ideals and to begin the unfolding of a useful citizenship.

Turning again to these numbers, it is apparent that nearly all of the great student-body have come from and are returning to rural communities. The community benefits doubly: On the one hand from the better instruction that the young men and women receive for their own use and develolment, and, on the other hand, from what they in turn give out to the schools and communities when they return to their homes and to their work. These rural young men and women make teachers who not only understand rural life, but who are in sympathy with it and who are integral parts of it. When these catch a vision of a higher rural life, then rural life is already unfolding and developing, for they are part of it. Not only is the teacher the shortest cut to rural problems, but he is an integral part of the problem, participating in its progrss.

In concluding this part of the report, let me say that significant as these numbers are, they very inadequately represent the real value of the instituion to the rural interests of the Commonwealth. The character of the Course of Study and the vitalizing forces of the student-body and faculty acting harmoniously through this Course of Study and through county delegations and other organizations show an influence and a contribution that oversteps the limitations of mere figures. Neither from the standpoint of the contributions of students to the cities in point of service, nor from the standpoint of free tuition taken by students, are the cities getting more than their just share of benefits from the State Normal School.

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The Mid-Winter Term of the Western Normal opens on February 1, 1916, instead of January 25, 1916. For further information, address

H. H. CHERRY, President,

Bowling Green, Ky.